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JAnuary 31, 2003

E P A Information Center  
501 Mineral Avenue  
Attn: Krystal Murphy  
Libby, Montana 59923

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Krystal,

Thank you for providing the Summary of Brownfield Revitalization programs I requested.

Mayor Berget is my source for what Stimson information I have received that I did not ferret out myself. Each time I am in Libby, I stop by his business and we share developments with each other. The Task Force failed to supply information they have and promised to me in November and county commissioners ignore my efforts to coordinate with them. In November, Pat Naughton of EDC told me that specific funding sources should be approached and approved my reply that it is the list I have and am contacting. Wednesday, I shared interest from 2 lenders with Tony and was off to spread our positive news with commissioners but was invited by their pit-Bill to use the door because no lender will be involved until they get their feasibility study, with my reply: you are talking to the wrong lenders resulting in an outraged "NO" and stomping away from me. In an earlier attempt to clarify zoning on available property for job creation, county planner sent me to FEMA, who sent me to a state agency, who sent me back to the county planner who has sole control over such decisions.

My questions at this time are: 1) has Brownfield designation been determined for the Stimson property? 2) what contributions are the commissioners making to the efforts on Stimson property? 3) what cleanup/liability issues could be resolved by forming a partnership of my revitalization project (developer), City Of Libby (Mayor Berget), and EPA? 4) who is determined to be liable for Stimson contamination? 5) on what parcel (legal description) is a toxic waste dump site local banks fear will bear windfall liability to owners?

The partnership envisioned under Q 3) will focus on a plan to revitalize the community by: 1) using available facilities in the community to create 1,000 non-timber jobs industry to help stabilize the local economy beginning within 30 to 60 Days; 2) establish a developer funded trust account to cover/help cover costs of removing community contaminants from the mill site (Stimson property, et al), private businesses, and homes to the extent that the non-timber industry market can provide, pay medical costs of community Citizens affected by the contamination, any other reason(s) deemed acceptable and appropriate by the partnership; 3) sustain the mill site for use as timber operations viable in current market and expand timber operations to utilize the mill site as market provides in the future.

To achieve my revitalization goals, I need to know: 1) what ball park figure estimate may be expected to cleanup the mill site? (A public release set estimates of \$1 Billion over 20 years trust goal for the total community cleanup); 2) what costs are known for the tests and results completed on the millsite and to complete analysis of soil samples? 3) what time frame is scheduled to complete the plywood plant, parking lot, log storage yard needed to reopen the mill, with the site remaining to be determined as soil samples results are released? 4) what time frame is scheduled for repayment of the costs of community cleanup priorities?

As I told Tony on Wednesday, not being exempted as developer/owner from liability isn't necessarily a deal breaker for me, however, being expected to buy the bullets to shoot blindly at an undisclosed target and not knowing what the payment schedule is places me in a position impossible to assess what resources are available to support partnership obligations or what point will result in breaking the bank, which would be a deal breaker.

As a community, we stand at a crossroad. On one path, Task Force and county commission want "a lot of great people" (quote from a banker letter) to hang in the wind while they apply for grants for study after study to convince lenders to invest in a plan which includes the ex-Champion International Libby operations chief who, as I recall, was fired or resigned when Champion caught him stealing their inventory and selling it in his family business at clear profit for them. Only expense for Champion. On the other path, resources have available Ulysses Simpson Grants to apply directly toward community revitalization.

With the positive partnership working with community health at heart, we can achieve economic stability through our own efforts. The alternative, county pitBill will chase everything possible away from a healthy community plan because it impedes their need for the image of a poor stricken community.

Sincerely,



Stanley G. Davis  
3264 Iron Creek Road  
Troy, Montana 59935

cc: Mayor Berget  
Tony Postlethwaite